these two crops to marginal farmers so that they can be given incentive and these two crops can be produced to some extent and the problem can be solved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Nirmal Chatterjee.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Minister has not replied yet.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: The Minister can reply to his question and my question together.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, this question can be better replied by the Agriculture Ministry. But what I am stating for the information of the Hon. Member is that there is already a scheme applicable to certain parts of the country where incentives are given for growing pulses and edible oilseeds There is no doubt that there is some shortage of pulses and edible oils and the Government of India have taken appropriate steps to import these articles so that there is no shortage in the country on account of these commodities.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE : Sir, I agree more with the Minister's statement than with Mr. Kulkarni.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please come to the question.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE : This is some padding, which the Prime Minister also likes. According to the statement, the assessment of the Planning Commission is that despite the severity of the drought, the economy as a whole will record a positive growth and the targets will be fulfilled. This, I agree, because the targets of growth in the economy do not depend on the production inside the country. It depends on whether the battle in Sri Lanka will continue and our defence expenditure will go up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please come to the point.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE : Yes, Sir, I am coming. It depends on whether despite the understanding between Vice-President, Bush, and our Prime Minister, the CIA activities inside the country will be intensified, leading to destabilisation and therefore more police and greater expenditure on police will take place. It is in this area that we are comparable with the advanced countries of the world. It is the service sector which permits you to fulfil the target, not the physical goods production sector. Therefore my question is very simple. The question is along with the fulfilment of targets, because of the drought, how many more people would you succeed in pushing below the poverty line? Is there any estimate?

MR CHAIRMAN: He wants to know what is the influence of the CIA on planning.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: He is taking a negative attitude.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, as far as poverty line is concerned, the situation will be known after some time. But his supplementary has no relevance to the question. We have already made in emphatically clear that the Central plan will be 100 per cent protected and will try to achieve the targets. Only there may be some shortfall in the rabi crops and there may be some problems for which he Central Government has provided the necessary assistance to all the State Governments to meet the situation.

Talks held by the P.M. with the U.S. President

*84. SHRI J P. GOYAL† SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) What were the issues discussed

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri J. P. Goyal.

with the U.S. President during the recent visit of the Prime Minister to USA and what is the outcome thereof; and

(b) Whether in view of the talks held, Government propose to make any change in its policy towards USA, and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Several bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.

(b) with these talks, Government hope to enhance mutual understanding and expand areas of cooperation with the USA as part of a continuous effort to improve bilateral relations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You lay the answer on the Table of the House. It will be taken as read.

Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Working of the Dhruva Research Reactor

*85. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dhurva Research Reactor is working at its rated capacity; if not what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps have been taken to improve the working of the reactor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Dhruva Research reactor is currently operating satisfactorily at 80 percent of its rated capacity. Preparations are under way to raise the reactor power to its rated capacity.

(b) Initial problems of excessive fuel assembly vibrations have been overcome by the engineers and scientists of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre by employing a modified design of fuel assemblies. Performance of the modified fuel assemblies has been checked at various power levels upto 80 MW (thermal) and found to be satisfactory.

Meeting on electoral reforms

*86. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the major opposition leaders meeting held recently in New Delhi on electoral reforms;

(b) whether the meeting has suggested some proposals on electoral reforms; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) What is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is not aware of the conclusions that were reached at the meeting.

(c) Does not arise.